

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

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C O N F I D E N T I A L ACCRA 6801

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, UNGA, GH

SUBJECT: PRE-31ST UNGA CONSULTATIONS - GHANA

REF: (A) STATE 220772 (B) STATE 220773 (C) ACCRA 5643

1. CHARGE AND POL OFF MET WITH LAMPTEY, DIRECTOR OF MFA'S EUROPE AND AMERICAS DIVISION, SEPTEMBER 13 TO DISCUSS KOREA AND OTHER ISSUES

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2. KOREA: LAMPTEY SAID FLATLY GHANA WOULD HOLD TO ITS PREVIOUS POSITION AND VOTE FOR THE HOSTILE RESOLUTION. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT SAY GHANA WOULD COSPONSOR HOSTILE RESOLUTION, WE ASSUME THIS POSSIBLE IN VIEW OF HIS POSITIVE ASSERTION ON GHANA'S VOTE. HE INDICATED GHANA WOULD LIKELY ABSTAIN ON FRIENDLY RESOLUTION. CHARGE ASKED WHAT HAD HAPPENED TO FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMISSIONER FELLI'S INSTRUCTION

TO MFA TO MODIFY OR TO SEEK WAYS OF MODERATING GHANA'S POSITION ON KOREA ISSUE. LAMPTEY SAID FELLI MEANT THAT GHANA SHOULD SEEK WAYS TO HELP RESOLUTION DRAFTERS MODERATE LANGUAGE OF RESOLUTION, BUT THAT IT WAS "HONOR BOUND" TO STICK WITH ITS PREVIOUS COMMITMENT.

3. THIS DOES NOT JIBE WITH SENIOR PRINCIPAL SECRETARY'S COMMENT (REF C) THAT FELLI DID NOT FEEL BOUND TO THE POSITION TAKEN BY HIS PREDECESSOR. LAMPTEY ALSO REFUSED TO ACKNOWLEDGE THAT A NUMBER

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OF RESERVATIONS TO THE KOREA RESOLUTION HAD BEEN MADE AT COLUMBO,

SAYING FIRMLY THAT THE KOREA RESOLUTION THERE WAS ACCEPTED BY CONSENSUS. THIS DIFFERENCE OF VIEWS SUGGESTS TO US THAT WHILE FELLI IS OPEN TO ARGUMENT THERE ARE HARD-LINERS IN MFA WHO ARE DETERMINED TO STICK WITH NON-ALIGNED GROUP. WE RECOMMEND FURTHER PRESSURE ON GOG DEL IN NEW YORK AND, IF POSSIBLE, HIGH LEVEL APPROACH TO FELLI (ARRIVING NY SEPT. 22) BY USUN.

4. SOUTHERN AFRICA: CHARGE OUTLINED SECRETARY'S AFRICAN TRIP AND SAID WE WOULD KEEP GOG INFORMED OF NEW DEVELOPMENTS ON RHODESIAN AND NAMIBIAN ISSUES. LAMPTEY EXPRESSED APPRECIATION BUT DID NOT VOLUNTEER SUBSTANTIVE COMMENTS.

5. ZIONISM/RACISM: NOTING GHANA HAD BEEN HELPFUL AT LAST YEAR'S UNGA ON THIS ISSUE, CHARGE HOPED GOG WOULD AGAIN MAKE DISTINCTION BETWEEN CONTENTIOUS RESOLUTION AND CONSTRUCTIVE DECADE FORMRCTION PROGRAM. LAMPTEY SAID HE HOPED ISSUE WOULD NOT ARISE BUT THAT, IF IT DID, HE FURTHER HOPED ANY NEW RESOLUTION WOULD MERELY CITE ZIONISM/RACISM RESOLUTION WITHOUT ELABORATING ON ITS CONTENTS.

6. WESTERN SAHARA: WE NOTED US SUPPORT FOR EFFORTS TO RESOLVE DISPUTE PEACEFULLY ON REGIONAL BASIS AND THAT WE LOOKED FORWARD TO US WORKING TOGETHER TO DEFLECT CONFRONTATION AT UNGA BETWEEN ALGERIA AND MOROCCO/MAURITANIA. LAMPTEY CONFIRMED GOG'S INTEREST IN ISSUE AND DISCUSSED CONDITIONS IN REGION. SINCE GOG'S POSITION SEEMS SIMILAR TO OURS, WE SHOULD BE ABLE TO COORDINATE WITH GHANA ON MATTER. LINEHAN

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